IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

To further improve the mechanical properties, the fiber proportion should be increased. According to the invention, the powder with the highest volume proportion of fiber is produced using the production methods according to claims 14, 15, 20, and/or 25, whereby it is possible to embed the fibers into the matrix material, preferably in such a manner that they are essentially completely surrounded by the matrix material. In this manner, the handling of the powder remains essentially uninfluenced by the volume proportion of the fiber material. Using PA12 as the matrix material and using a volume proportion of the carbon fibers of 30%, an increase in tensile strength of 300% and an increased in the modulus of elasticity by a factor of 9 can be achieved~~, depending on~~.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

For this purpose, as can be seen in Figure 3, a suspension is first produced, having a matrix micropowder 22 stirred into a liquid phase, such as ethanol or an ethanol/water mixture 20. The particles of the matrix micropowder ~~20~~ 22 have dimensions that lie significantly below the particle size DP of the powder particle 30 to be produced. In this connection, uniform mixing of the phases in the vessel must be assured.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown schematically in Figure 4, powder having a first component present in the form of essentially spherical powder particles 118, which is formed by a matrix material, and at least one further component in the form of stiffening and/or reinforcing fibers 140. The matrix component can be formed by a metal or by a thermoplastic plastic was used.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

This method is shown schematically in Figure 6. It differs from the method described above, on the basis of Figure 3, only in that not only matrix micropowder 322 but also stiffening or reinforcing fibers 340 are stirred into the liquid phase, such as an ethanol or an ethanol/water mixture 320. The particles of the matrix micropowder ~~20~~ 322 have dimensions that lie significantly below the particle size DP of the powder particle ~~30~~ 330 to be produced. The fiber lengths are also selected in such a manner that their average length is not greater

than the average grain size of the powder particles to be achieved. In this connection, again, uniform mixing of the phases in the vessel must be assured.